

JESUS HEALS BY HIS WORD

A **Roman soldier** came up to Jesus one day. He was important because he was in charge of 100 soldiers. He said, "Lord, my servant is lying unable to move at my home!"

Jesus said, "I will come and heal him." The soldier said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come to my home. Just say the word, and I know my servant will be healed. I am one who commands others by my word. I say to a soldier in my command, "Come" and he comes, and "Go!" and he goes. Just say the word, and I know he will be healed.

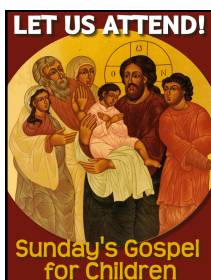
Jesus was amazed. He said to his followers. "Truly I say, not in Israel have I found such faith!" He turned to the soldier and said, "Go; I will grant your request since you have believed in me." The servant was healed at that very moment.



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Who asked Jesus to heal his servant?
2. What was wrong with the servant?
3. The soldier told Jesus he didn't need to come to his home to heal his servant. What did he say Jesus should do to heal him?
4. Did Jesus do what the soldier asked?
5. Was the servant healed?



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Pre-12



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One day, our Lord Jesus Christ came to a place called Capernaum. When He got there, an important man came to Him. The man was a centurion, which means that he was a soldier in charge of 100 other soldiers. This important man came to ask Jesus for help!

The man had a servant who was very sick. The servant was so sick that he could not move! The centurion thought Jesus could heal his servant. That is why he came.

Jesus said, "I will come and heal him."

But the centurion said, "I'm not good enough to have You come into my house. I know that if You just say that he is healed, my servant will be healed! With my work as a centurion, I'm in charge of others. When I tell them to do something, they do it. I know that You can command things to happen, too..."

Jesus was amazed at what the man said. He told the people who were following Him, "This man has a lot of faith. I haven't found any people in all of Israel who believe in Me as much as this man does. I'm telling you, all different kinds of people will be in heaven with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It will not just be God's special people, the Jews. Many people who are not Jewish will believe in and follow God, too." Then, He turned to the centurion and told him to go home. He said, "May it be done for you as you believed!"

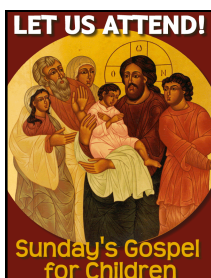
At that very moment, the centurion's sick servant was healed!



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Who asked Jesus to heal his servant?
2. What was wrong with the servant?
3. The centurion told Jesus that He didn't need to come to the centurion's home to heal the servant. How did he say Jesus could heal him?
4. Did the centurion have lots of faith or just a little? How do you know?
5. Was the servant healed?



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JESUS HEALS BY HIS WORD

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum, and a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it."

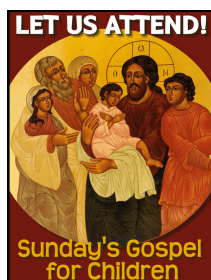
When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who were following him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What is a centurion? What does the centurion in this story tell us about himself? What does the dictionary say a centurion is?
2. Who can you think of who has a lot of power and is in charge of a lot of people like the centurion? Can you imagine that person coming and asking you to help him or her? Why or why not?
3. Do you think it is normal or strange for a Roman centurion to ask a Jew for help? Why?
4. What does this say about the centurion? What does Jesus think about this man asking him for help?
5. What do you think you could do today that would take great faith like this centurion's?



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Characters: Narrator, Centurion, Jesus

Narrator: At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum, and a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying,

Centurion: Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress.

Narrator: And Jesus said to him,

Jesus: I will come and heal him.

Narrator: But the centurion answered him,

Centurion: Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, "Go," and he goes, and to another, "Come," and he comes, and to my slave, "Do this," and he does it.

Narrator: When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who were following him,

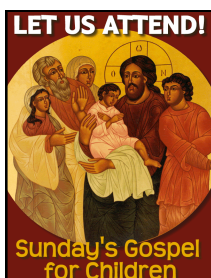
Jesus: Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.

Narrator: And to the centurion Jesus said,

Jesus: Go; be it done for you as you have



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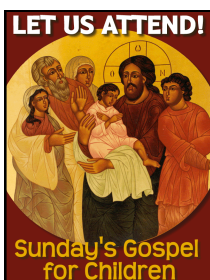


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heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What is a centurion? What does a centurion do?
2. What does the centurion say happens when he tells someone what to do?
3. What is he telling us about Jesus by saying he is a "man under authority" just like the centurion?
4. What does that make us? Are we soldiers in Jesus' army?
5. What does that mean we will do when Jesus says "go"?
6. Do you think we can do this, go when Jesus says go and come when he says come? Why might this be hard? Why would we do it even if it is hard?



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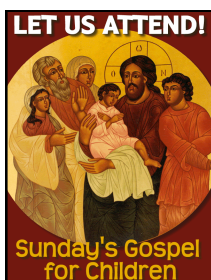
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does a servant do? How does a servant know what to do?
2. What does it mean to be a servant of God? How do we know what to do?
3. What is wrong with the Centurion's servant in this gospel? Do you think he was able to do his job? Why or why not?
4. Are you always able to do your job as God's servant? What paralyzes you sometimes?
5. Who goes and appeals for the servant's healing for him?
6. Who do you think is asking God to heal you so you can serve him?
7. How is the servant healed? Why is he healed?
8. How do you think you will be healed of what paralyzes you?



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